

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Please replace the six paragraphs beginning at page 4, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

- - The invention provides more particularly chelating agents of formula I, wherein X and Y are N, R₆ is H, C₁ alkyl, C₂ alkyl, C₃ alkyl, C₄ alkyl, C₅ alkyl or C₆ alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C₁₀-C₁₈ aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R₁, ~~[[R₃]]~~ R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as listed in Table 1.

In another embodiment the invention relates to chelating agents of formula I, wherein X and Y are S, R₆ is H, C₁ alkyl, C₂ alkyl, C₃ alkyl, C₄ alkyl, C₅ alkyl or C₆ alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C₁₀-C₁₈ aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as listed in Table 1.

In yet another embodiment chelating agents of formula I are provided, wherein X is N and Y is S, R₆ is H, C₁ alkyl, C₂ alkyl, C₃ alkyl, C₄ alkyl, C₅ alkyl or C₆ alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C₁₀-C₁₈ aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as listed in Table 1.

According to a further aspect thereof the invention relates to chelating agents of formula I, wherein X is S and Y are N, R₆ is H, C₁ alkyl, C₂ alkyl, C₃ alkyl, C₄ alkyl, C₅ alkyl or C₆ alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C₁₀-C₁₈ aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as listed in Table 1.

According to another aspect of the invention, chelating agents of formula I are provided, wherein X is N and Y is P, R₆ is H, C₁ alkyl, C₂ alkyl, C₃ alkyl, C₄ alkyl, C₅ alkyl or C₆ alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C₁₀-C₁₈

aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as listed in Table 1.

In another embodiment the invention relates to chelating agents of formula I, wherein X is S and Y is P, R₆ is H, C₁ alkyl, C₂ alkyl, C₃ alkyl, C₄ alkyl, C₅ alkyl or C₆ alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C₁₀-C₁₈ aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are as listed in Table 1. - -